ix) State Level Bankers Committee to hold meetings for resolution of Credit issues of MSMEs;

x) Guarantee cover under Credit Guarantee Scheme doubled to Rs. 1 crore with cover of 50%;

xi) DEPB rates restored to pre November, 2008 levels and extended till 31.12.2009;

xii) Duty Drawback on knitted fabrics enhanced retrospectively from 1.9.2008.

**Weavers of UP and Bihar in Miserable Condition**

1319. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:

SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that weavers who mostly belong to minority community in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are in miserable condition and are on the verge of committing suicide;

(b) whether the new Government will constitute a commission to conduct survey and enquire into their plight;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details and number of weavers who are living below poverty line in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, district-wise and what steps Government has taken to redress their grievances till date, during the last one year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) The Government of India is implementing following handloom schemes for the development of the handloom sector and welfare of handloom weavers including weavers belonging to minority communities of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar:

(i) Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme

(ii) Marketing and Export Promotion Scheme

(iii) Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme

(iv) Mill Gate Price Scheme

(v) Diversified Handloom Development Scheme

However, no reports of committing suicide by the weavers of the State of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been received. The number of weavers living below poverty line in Uttar Pradesh are 69,656 while the data on weavers below poverty line in Bihar is not available. District-wise details in this regard are maintained by the respective State Government.

**Textile Sector hit by Appreciation of Rupee**

1320. SHRIMATI HEMA MALNI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide necessary support to textile sector which have been adversely hit by the appreciation of rupee and thus causing losses; and